

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LINCOLN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 298
LINCOLN, KANSAS

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019
7:00 P.M.

Board Members:

D. Bell
M. Breneman
J. Eckhart
TJ Jonsson
P. Winters
R. Wright

Others:

Kathy Robertson, Superintendent
Greta Obermueller, Clerk
Stephen Koch, LES Principal
Christi Walter, LJSHS Principal
Darla Smith Jason Curtis
Brenda White Carson Walter
Mindy Wiebke Lori Spear
Sawyer Ptacek Shari Pittenger

1. The regular Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, TJ Jonsson.
2. Motion by Monty Breneman, seconded by David Bell, to adopt the agenda. Aye-6 No-0
3. There were no delegations present to address the Board of Education.

7:02 p.m. Debora Zachgo arrived.
4. Mindy Wiebke, Lincoln Elementary School paraprofessional, stated that she and Sawyer Ptacek had been approached by a group of students who felt they were seeing a lot of bullying and disrespect to staff and fellow students. They wanted to form an organization that would promote better behavior. They wanted to start a group called BRAVE. B-Bravery, R-Respect, A-Acceptance, V-Voice, E-Empathy. BRAVE is based on a state program, called *Not in Our School*, an anti-bullying program promoted KSDE that has been around for about a decade. This program is a student led program which promotes students to become good leaders, promotes peer to peer interaction, acceptance and inclusion. The program states that school should be a place where there is no stereotypes, hate, and tolerance. It should be a place to connect with one another and make good decisions. Sawyer Ptacek, Lincoln Elementary School Counselor, shares Character Education units on emotions and how to handle reactions with each class every other week. She meets with individual students. She has placed a lockbox in the hallway at school where students can place a paper form asking for her assistance. She attempts to check it twice a day and then can make herself available, if needed. She has also started "lunch bunches" in her office every Friday for 4th, 5th and 6th grade students to meet in small groups, eat lunch together and work on skills. She has additional ideas and fun things planned for the upcoming year.
5. Carson Walter, LHS Journalism student, shared highlights from their Anaheim, California trip. Students attended classes Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. both days. Students learned many things, including the fact that they are doing

many things correctly. She stated that Mr. Curtis had requested that a journalist from the *LA Times* critique their student newspaper. Mr. Curtis shared that he did not enjoy driving in the Los Angeles traffic. Mrs. Walter stated that there were over 4,000 students in attendance at this conference. Carson stated, "It is good for us to get out of our little bubble and learn what other schools and students are doing."

6. Motion by Patti Winters, seconded by Rhonda Wright, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 1, 2019, and the special meeting of April 4, 2019, and the special meeting of April 16, 2019, and the special meeting of April 22, 2019. Aye-7 No-0
7. Motion by Jeana Eckhart, seconded by Debora Zachgo, that U.S.D. #298 Lincoln accept the Clerk's and Treasurer's Reports. Aye-7 No-0
8. Motion by Rhonda Wright, seconded by Jeana Eckhart, to accept the bills for payment. Aye-7 No-0
9. Under information items, Mrs. Robertson distributed draft copies of the 2019-2020 Lincoln Preschool Handbook, the 2019-20 Lincoln Elementary Handbook, the 2019-20 Lincoln Jr. High Handbook, the 2019-20 Lincoln High School Handbook, the 2019-20 LES Certified Staff Handbook, the 2019-20 LJSHS Certified Staff Handbook, and the 2019-20 Classified Staff Handbook. Board members are asked to review and call if they have questions or concerns. These will be brought back for discussion next month.
10. Lori Spear, representing Lincoln Elementary Site Council, was present to follow up from their presentation last fall. The LES Site Council has a current balance of \$4,580.47. They will be catering the June 1, 2019, alumni weekend meal as well as the June 8, 2019, Lincoln Genealogy Meeting at the Finch Theatre. She updated board members on the prepackaged school supplies for the upcoming year. The Site Council felt it best to help students, teachers and parents to get the price as low as possible on the prepackaged school supplies. The Site Council has committed to contributing to this project to reduce the cost of the supply packets to \$19 - \$43 per packet and now have the parents of 70 district students participating so far. They feel this has been a great success so far. Short term goals are the ongoing prepackaged school supplies for students and accessibility to access supplies for teachers in a stock pile area on the stage. Long term goals for this group will be to assist with the non-budgeted needs for the school as they arrive and assist when possible. An example of this assistance was the Lincoln Elementary School Site Council paid \$3,483.17 to replace the wiring and the lights in the Lincoln Elementary School Gymnasium.

11. Scott Miller, DS Bus Lines, contacted Mrs. Robertson about placing cameras in their buses for a total cost to the district of \$8,475.71. Mr. Miller feels that this has become “today’s necessity” but Mrs. Robertson stated that she does not feel this is a priority at the current time with the financial strains on the district. She had assured Mr. Miller that she would present the options of cameras to the board of education for their consideration.
12. Senate Bill 16 gives an additional \$90 million to the state which Governor Kelley has signed for the 2019-20 school year. She reminded board members that of the new money, \$6,991 goes to Special Education in the form of flow through money. Base per pupil numbers are projected through 2020-23. Oral arguments are to be given May 9, 2019, pertaining to Senate Bill and possibly give end to the ongoing lawsuit.
13. USD #298 Lincoln will have a loss in Title funding of \$4,086 for the 2019-20 year. Basically the district will have no carry over for the upcoming year in these federal funds.
14. USD #298 Lincoln has received the E-Rate Commitment letter from Schools and Library Division for Priority One funding for 2019-2020 in the amount \$19,713.60. This will be an 80/20 split for the upcoming school year.
15. James Lange, Industrial Arts Instructor has completed the LJSHS gym handrail project with assistance from Kohl McBride, lead welder, and Jerry Marinhagen. This has been a very fine tuned job but are heavy duty, have been painted black and look very professional. Thanks and appreciation were expressed to Mr. Lange and his students for a job well done thus saving the district thousands of dollars.
16. Mrs. Robertson distributed a printout of the presentation given to the VFW Post 7928. Bud DeArvil called and relayed that if there was a monetary donation to the district for the track, it would most likely be less than \$1,000. He apologized on behalf of the Post. Mrs. Robertson stated that her feelings were that it was discouraging. At the present time, she can not recommend moving forward with this project with no commitment of funds.
17. Greenbush has been working on the asbestos re-inspection and the district is currently up to date. Requirements are periodic surveillance by staff, inspection accompanied by dated signatures, and reinspections every three years to remain in compliance for three years. There are several painting projects that need to be completed this summer to assist with compliance.
18. Mrs. Robertson reported that an HVAC unit has gone out in the LJSHS Math room. There were three bids submitted and the low bid was from Street Plumbing and Electric for \$6,325. Units have gone up approximately \$800 since the replacement of the last expired unit. TJ Jonsson asked how many units were on the buildings that all have

exceeded their life expectancy and can be expected to fail on any given day. Mrs. Robertson will get an exact number prior to the next meeting.

19. The Lincoln Elementary Walk-in Freezer needs to be replaced as there are multiple problems. The district has two replacement bids at the present time from Sunflower and Walt's Refrigeration. Kathy Robertson is suggesting that the board take action on replacing this unit and possibly a two door cooler, all located in the LES lunchroom at the July, 2019, meeting. Part of the payment could come out of this fiscal year's money and part out of next fiscal year's capital outlay budget line. It is currently keeping food at temperatures of 40 degrees. Mrs. Robertson will apply for a food service grant.
20. Under the USD 298 Education Foundation update, Mrs. Robertson reported that Daniel D. Metz apprised the Foundation at their April meeting the USD #298 Board of Education Foundation would benefit from the Alma McCauley Estate. Mrs. McCauley is leaving the foundation \$40,000 and whatever remains after distributions to other organizations and legal fees are subtracted. Mrs. Robertson expressed congratulations to the Foundation on this generous bequest.
21. Mrs. Robertson relayed that \$16,808.81 was transferred this month from the general fund to food service. This has been the biggest transfer this year. Contributing to higher expenses were labor costs for two payrolls, being April and May. The district has saved money on food but not on labor.
22. Under the Superintendent's Report, Mrs. Robertson reported that summer projects included, cleaning and painting of the gym. A scissors lift will be rented from Street Plumbing and Electric. She has not had a response from Select Spectrum regarding broadband bandwidth, Kathy Robertson has signed up USD #298 Board of Education for the Meet and Greet on June 8, 2019, Mr. Lange has been awarded a Perkins grant \$2,087 for a multi-process welder, Mrs. Robertson received a letter from the City of Lincoln Center dated May 13, 2019, regarding a meeting on the issuance of industrial revenue bonds for US Tower, not to exceed \$3,000,000. The insurance claim has been reopened by Geisler Roofing on the claim from 1 1/2 years ago but the district may be eligible for a new roof.
23. Steve Koch, Lincoln Elementary School Principal, reported that he had nothing further to add to his written report unless board members have questions. There being none, the meeting proceeded.
24. Christi Walter, Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School Principal, stated that she would like to add to her written report that Lincoln High School has State Champions in Forensics, in Journalism and Power Lifting. In state Journalism, Preston Howard placed 3rd in Advertising, Hunter Meier placed second in Sports Writing and Carson Walter placed 1st in Theatre Writing. Mikayla Breneman and Raegen Stewart were overall winners in weightlifting and the girls placed third overall as a team. Forensics placed fourth overall as a team in 1A with Libby Huskey being a state champion in

Prose, a four time state champion which is a first in the history of Lincoln High School, Libby Huskey and Tru Haesemeyer being named state champions in Duet, Emma Corpstein placing 3rd in Serious Solo. Mrs. Walter relayed that Lincoln High School has much to be proud of with the performance of students that represent our school.

25. Nikki Flinn, Lincoln County Recreation Commission representative, had submitted her written report and it was included in the packet. There were no questions.
26. Darla Smith, Smoky Hill Service Center, has returned to the district working with staff today and is present this evening to update members. The state requires that every district have a tiered system in place to help with academics and non-academics within a five year accreditation system process. USD #298 Lincoln is in year four of this process at the present time. The first year was spent structuring and building support; then an aligned assessment system was completed supporting the curriculum. A review of what is in place and looking for the gaps is called diagnostics. Tools are in place with AIMS Web at the Lincoln Elementary School and ACT Aspire for grades 3-12. A curriculum plan has been created and the core is being explored looking at interventions. Next year the extra supports and time management of these tools will be used. Interventions are in place to provide additional support with the time that is available and manageable. Reading at the Lincoln Elementary School will be addressed. Math and behavior will be on the radar at the Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School. Attendance issues with some of the students will be addressed under character traits desired from students. Darla Smith's goal is to get this system in place so the district can carry on, on its own.
27. Mrs. Robertson reminded board members that no increase was made in Food Service for meals in the last fiscal year. Meal prices were set before the food service audit was completed last year and the board did not make the adjustment. A proposal for all breakfast and lunch prices for the upcoming year was distributed. The increase this year will catch the district up to federal government recommendations, if the district is supplementing their food service program from the general fund. Proposed breakfast and lunch prices remain in line with surrounding school districts. The Board of Education can consider and act on this proposal later in the meeting.
28. Ten families have responded to the Six Grade Parent Athletic Participation Survey distributed by the Board of Education Office. Eight families replied that their students would participate in sports, two families responded that their student would not and four families would have students that ride the activity bus. Sixth grade students are not covered by KSHSAA insurance as the rest of junior high students are, so the district would be required to secure this coverage through an outside plan. Mrs. Robertson also suggested that June might be the time to discuss activity routes for the upcoming school year. Participation of sixth grade students will be brought back next month as an action item.

29. The walk-in freezer and cooler at the Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School was next on the agenda. Ron from Walt's Refrigeration from Salina, Kansas, came out and assessed the situation in an attempt to determine the problems. Mrs. Robertson shared pictures on her cell phone of the ice between the walls. A plan has been drawn up with a plan to correct the failed screeds and remediate the problems in the kitchen and weight room. The floor needs to be replaced, insulation restored, and the moisture will then be contained within the freezer. A condensation pipe that is leaking to the rear of the building will also be replaced.
30. Mrs. Robertson reported that the district is in year four of the KESA process, with the OVT meeting having taken place. The district is awaiting the final report of the OVT committee chair. As soon as Mrs. Robertson is in receipt of that, she will distribute to board members.
31. The Facility Naming Committee has met and they are doing a great job. They continue to work on criteria but are not quite there yet. The committee will have something to bring to the Board of Education in June.
32. Through Edgenuity, which is the online program or credit recovery, administration has found that they can offer some of the FFA classes. Some of those classes are Agri-Business System Pathway or Animal Science Pathway that the district could obtain online for students and then go about finding sponsors.
33. Mrs. Robertson has no new information on the Beloit Special Education Cooperative host fee. The meeting was cancelled and she has received no new information.
34. Mrs. Robertson stated that under the Mettner Field / Track update, she does not know how the district will finance a track at this time. In regard to plaques for the benches, two businesses from Salina are suggesting that the district purchase steel markers to imbed in the cement in front of the benches instead of plaques on the actual benches. The eight cement bumpers from Salina Concrete have been placed in the handicapped parking area. The Luck family wishes to purchase a picnic table with the John Luck Memorial funds.
35. Mrs. Robertson updated board members on FEMA storm shelter. Corey Schulz of Schulz Squared, LLC, was present via telephone to explain issues regarding eligible items vs. ineligible items on this project. The district is eligible for \$700,000 plus and the district's share would be 25 percent. This is his 14th FEMA funded project and the reality becomes more like a 50/50 split, which is very misleading but happens frequently with this agency grant. He cited specifics that would not be eligible for funding such as ceilings, outlets, paint, heating and cooling system, etc. He has been in contact with Charles McGonigle, KDEM Mitigation, who will work with the district and wants to help the district spend this money. It is important that the district keep track of "in kind" costs and time spent on associated costs with this project which will count as well. The hope is to get this project to the \$270,000 mark.

36. The LJSHS HVAC project was not addressed as there was no update at this time.
37. Kathy Robertson reported on the LES HVAC project. \$870,500 is earmarked to go directly to this project. The additional costs not included in the original bid were discussed. The EPM system can be removed, wiring, conduit and install individual controls in each room would lessen the additional costs. Discussion ensued on the removal of wiring, the fire marshal code and costs associated with the removal of conduit and wiring. Kathy Robertson called Fred Malicoat of Malicoat Winslow Engineers who was present via cell phone regarding the additional costs and the different scenarios with this project. Monty Breneman suggested that the board take action on Option 2 later in the meeting under Action Items.
38. Motion by David Bell, seconded by Debora Zachgo, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education accept restitution check number 9207 from the District Court of Lincoln County, Kansas, in the amount of \$43.55. Aye-7 No-0
39. Motion by Monty Breneman, seconded by Jeana Eckhart, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education host a staff appreciation luncheon on Friday, May 17, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. in the Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School Commons. Aye-7 No-0
40. Motion by Rhonda Wright, seconded by Patti Winters, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education host a retirement reception on Friday, May 17, 2019, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Finch Theatre. Aye-7 No-0
41. Motion by David Bell, seconded by Patti Winters, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education increase all breakfast prices for the upcoming year by ten cents. Lunch prices will be increased to the following: Lincoln Elementary School student lunches will be \$2.90; Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School student lunches will be \$3.05; Adult lunches will be \$3.75. All other prices will remain the same. Aye-6 No-0
42. Motion by Jeana Eckhart, seconded by Debora Zachgo, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education approve option 2 for the LES HVAC and Window project for a total not to exceed \$79,500. Aye-7 No-0
43. Motion by Patti Winters, seconded by Debora Zachgo, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education go back into executive session at 9:00 p.m. for 30 minutes with the Superintendent for the purpose of discussing matters relating to employer-employee negotiations whether or not in consultation with the representative or representatives of the body or agency; and that the board return to open meeting at 9:57 p.m. in the Board of Education meeting room. The executive session is required to protect the district's right to the confidentiality of its negotiating position, and the public interest. Aye-7 No-0

9:30 p.m. The Board returned to open meeting.

9:30 p.m. The President called for a short break in the meeting.

9:35 p.m. The meeting resumed.

44. Motion by Jeana Eckhart, seconded by David Bell, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education go into executive session at 9:35 p.m. for 30 minutes with the Superintendent and Christi Walter, LJSHS Principal. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the Board return to open meeting at 10:05 p.m. in this room. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of identifiable individuals. Aye-7 No-0

9:50 p.m. Christi Walter left executive session.

9:50 p.m. Steve Koch joined executive session.

9:56 p.m. Steve Koch left executive session.

10:05 p.m. The Board returned to open session.

45. Motion by Debora Zachgo, seconded by Jeana Eckhart, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education accept the resignation of Meita Lyne as Kindergarten Paraprofessional effective Friday, May 10, 2019, and from JH track effective at the end of the 2018-19 school year. Aye-7 No-0
46. Motion by Jeana Eckhart, seconded by Patti Winters, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education approve hiring Meita Lyne to fill the Lincoln Elementary School Secretary position effective Monday, May 13, 2019. Aye-7 No-0
47. Motion by Monty Breneman, seconded by Rhonda Wright, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education approve hiring Blake Lee as Junior High Science Teacher, Assistant JH Boys Basketball Coach, and Junior High Track coach for the 2019-20 school year. Aye-7 No-0
48. Motion by Patti Winters, seconded by Jeana Eckhart, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education hire Katie Patee to fill the Kindergarten Paraprofessional position for the 2019-20 school year. Aye-7 No-0
49. Motion by Rhonda Wright, seconded by Monty Breneman, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education approve the 2019-20 supplemental contracts as proposed. Aye-7 No-0
50. There were no Board Information Requests.

51. Motion by Jeana Eckhart, seconded by David Bell, that the meeting be adjourned.
Aye-7 No-0

Time: 10:09 p.m.

Greta Obermueller, Clerk

Approved:

TJ Jonsson, President